IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 6, as follows:

This second variant consists in managing a second counter CPT22 in the card accumulating the aggregates performed on a first counter CPT12 of small amounts. If the value of the counter CPT22 reaches a second ceiling value VP2, defined by the bank and registered previously in the card, the card will demand the checking of a certificate calculated by an authorization center.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 15, as follows:

The card adds the amount M of the transaction to the value read from CPT12.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 17, as follows:

If (test 13) the sum CPT12+M reaches the ceiling value, VP1, the card demands the checking of the bearer's confidential code (steps 10, 11 and 12).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 20, as follows:

If the confidential code is correct, the card adds the value of CPT12+M to the value read from CPT22.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 24, as follows:

If the sum CPT12+M+CPT22 reaches the ceiling VP2, the card demands (step 15) the checking of a certificate computed by an authorization center interrogated by the terminal of the reading terminal L (step 16).

[Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 29, as follows:]

If the certificate is correct, the card resets the counters CPT12 and CPT22 to zero (step 17) and then computes and delivers the signature of the transaction (steps 7 et seq.).

[Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 33, as follows:]

If the certificate is incorrect, the card does not deliver the signature of the transaction and leaves the values of the counters CPT12 and CPT22 unaltered.

[Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 36, as follows:]

If the sum of CPT12+M+CPT22 has not reached the ceiling value VP2, the card resets the counter CPT12 to zero and updates the counter CPT22 by replacing its previous value with CPT22+CPT12+M (step 18). Next it computes and delivers the signature of the transaction (steps 7, 8 and 9).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 7, as follows:

If the sum CPT12+M does not reach the ceiling value VP1, the card updates the counter CPT12 by replacing its previous value with the sum CPT12+M (step 19), and it then delivers the signature of the transaction (steps 7, 8 and 9).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 1, as follows:

In the example above, the counters are incremented from the value 0 to a ceiling value. It is also possible to count downwards, the counters being initialized to the ceiling value VP1 and VP2 and then decremented down to the value 0, the counting can also be done on negative values etc.